



Supervisor

# Mark Ridley-Thomas

Los Angeles County • Second District

## Empowerment Opportunities

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Medical Center Campus Public Information Meeting**  
Wednesday, December 2  
5:30pm—9:30pm  
*Martin Luther King, Jr. Medical Center, Claude H. Hudson Auditorium*  
12021 Wilmington Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90059

**Crenshaw/LAX Corridor Light Rail Transit Line Full Board Vote**  
Thursday, December 10  
9:30am  
*Metro Board Room—Level 3*  
1 Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Winter Wonderland Celebration Toy Giveaway**  
Saturday, December 12  
11:00am—2:00pm  
*Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza Lower Level Sears Parking Lot*  
3650 Martin Luther King Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90008

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Gospel Fest**  
**Monday, January 18**  
**11:00am—4:00pm**  
*Leimert Park Village*  
Degnan Blvd. between 43<sup>rd</sup> St. & 43<sup>rd</sup> Pl.

**America I Am Exhibit**  
Now through Thursday, April 15  
10:00am—5:00pm  
*California Science Center*  
395 39th St. & Figueroa St.  
Los Angeles, CA 90037

*For complete listings, visit <http://ridley-thomas.lacounty.gov>*

## RIDLEY-THOMAS LAUNCHES WEB PAGE IN RECOGNITION OF FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE

In recognition of his first full year in office, Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas launched a web page to highlight milestones reached since his December 1, 2008 Oath of Office. This page, which features an interactive timeline of policy and community empowerment

events, celebrates some of the Supervisor's most significant achievements in areas including health, public safety, transportation, and environment.

*To view the page, visit: <http://ridley-thomas.lacounty.gov/milestones.htm>*

## RIDLEY-THOMAS MAKES DYNAMIC STRIDES IN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Placing the environmental needs and concerns of Second District constituents high on his priority list, the Supervisor has positively impacted the following areas:

### Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (BHCSD)

The Baldwin Hills Community Standards District (CSD) was adopted in December 2008 by the LA County Board of Supervisors, establishing new development standards and operating procedures for oil and gas production in the area. In response to constituent concerns regarding sight, smells, sound, and safety, the Supervisor initiated a review of the CSD to ensure that proper regulations were in place to adequately protect the community's health, safety and well-being. In October 2009, he hosted a Town Hall meeting, at which residents were invited to share questions, comments, and concerns relative to the CSD.

### Ballona Creek Improvements and Park to Playa Trail

Working to restore the community's natural beauty, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas financed beautification and access improvements through the Mountains and Rivers Conservation Authority (MRCA). Some improvements include enhanced entryways into the creek, planning for a pocket park on Milton St and improved connectivity into the Baldwin Hills parkland.

He also initiated meetings with key stakeholders, which have catalyzed the mapping, design, and future establishment of a trail that will connect the beach to Baldwin Hills. Phase II will extend the trail to downtown.

### Urged Board to Establish a Renewable Energy Financing Program to be piloted in the Summer of 2010

Based on a motion introduced by the Supervisor in April, the County has allocated resources through a Federal Energy Block Grant to set up a Renewable Energy Financing Program that will allow residences and businesses all over the County to finance energy efficiency and renewable energy projects through their property tax assessments. All cities are urged to collaborate with the County on this important financing resource.

### Parks and Landscaping Improvements

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas also funded upgrades and enhancements to many of the County's Second District Parks, including Alondra Park, Ted Watkins Park, Campanella Park, Heller Keller Park, Del Aire Park, and Athens Park. Major landscaping improvements have also begun in all corners of the district, including in Baldwin Hills, Del Aire and Florence-Firestone.

*For more information, please visit <http://ridley-thomas.lacounty.gov/Pages/green>*

# RIDLEY-THOMAS HEALTHCARE ADVOCACY BRINGS NEW HOPE TO SOUTH LOS ANGELES

In response to the health crises facing the minority communities that reside in the Second Supervisorial District, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has championed major initiatives to restore health and vitality to community members.

## Prioritized Revitalizing the Martin Luther King Medical Center Hospital Campus

The Supervisor expedited the process and provided leadership to ensure funding for more than **\$350 million of capital improvements** to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Medical Center campus designed to attract professional development and philanthropic resources to the hospital and the surrounding area that will encourage investment in additional educational, retail and housing opportunities.

Notably, he also successfully lobbied the **UC Board of Regents** to secure a unanimous vote to partner with the County of Los Angeles to provide medical services at the new Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital.

During the Supervisor's first year in office, the County secured \$19 million in funding to develop a new improved and expanded **South Health Center** at the MLK Campus to meet the growing demand for services including sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, and communicable disease immunizations.

The Board of Supervisors also approved **\$322 million** to provide new operating rooms and expand and modernize the emergency medical department at the

**Harbor-UCLA Medical Center**, also in the Second District and part of the MLK hospital's network of care. Together, the MLK hospital, South Health Center and Harbor-UCLA campus capital improvement efforts will create roughly **15,750 more jobs**.

## Pushed for the Establishment of Model School Based Health Centers

The Supervisor also authored a motion, co-sponsored with First District Supervisor Gloria Molina, that directed the CEO, the Department of Mental Health and the Department of Health Services to outline a plan and timeline for developing at least five integrated School Based Health Center projects within the County.

## Initiated a County-wide Effort to Pursue Health Information Technology (HIT) Programming and Funds

Among other notable accomplishments, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas directed the County to conduct a feasibility assessment for creating a countywide HIT Demonstration Project and technical advisory group that included key private and public partners.

The Supervisor also initiated efforts to ensure the County applied for ARRA grant funds for information technology that included a strategy to incorporate the use of the Los Angeles Network for Enhanced Services (LANES) Project to provide HIT services to the County and align LANES

with the State Health Information Exchange Initiative that is being developed.

*For more information, please visit the Healthcare pages on our website.*

## **SPOTLIGHT:**

### **MLK MEDICAL CENTER CAMPUS**

### **PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING**

Join Los Angeles County Second District Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas for a public information meeting about the proposed plans to develop a new state-of-the-art Martin Luther King, Jr. Medical Center Campus. The proposed project will revitalize the site of the existing hospital and bring much-needed medical services to the Second District and the County of Los Angeles.

**Wednesday, December 2, 2009**

**5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**

**Martin Luther King Jr. Medical Center  
H. Claude Hudson Auditorium  
12021 Wilmington Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90059**

Project staff will be available to answer questions about the proposed project on topics including design, land-use, sustainability, and other impacts to be examined during the environmental review process.

# RIDLEY-THOMAS PROMOTES LOCAL HIRING INITIATIVES TO STAFF RECENT PROJECTS

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, committed to restoring vitality and economic vigor to Second District communities, is promoting local hiring initiatives to provide thousands of jobs for residents of the neighborhoods directly benefitting from recent transit and healthcare-related projects, including the New Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital project and the Crenshaw/LAX Light Rail Transit Line.

The latter project is scheduled for approval by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) on Thursday, December 10.

Three projects alone (MLK, Harbor/UCLA and Crenshaw Transit Corridor) will create over 24,000 new jobs. Combined with other healthcare projects, libraries, affordable housing and other development work

initiated in the Second District last year, the total of new jobs being created is well over 25,000.

*For more information on these and other projects please visit <http://ridley-thomas.lacounty.gov>*

# SUPERVISOR'S TRANSIT INITIATIVES PROVIDE PATHWAY THROUGH THE HEART OF THE CRENSHAW DISTRICT TO LAX

As one of several Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) Directors, Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has advocated tirelessly for transit projects that will benefit Second District constituents. As such, he has helped secure funding and garnered support for the following initiatives, which provide increased public transportation services to Second District communities.

## Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor Project

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has effectively advocated for Light Rail Transit (LRT) rather than Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) along the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor. At its December 10 board meeting the will vote on the \$1.76 billion public works investment project that will benefit the Second Supervisorial District in three major areas: Congestion Relief, Air Quality and Economic Development.

LRT along the corridor benefits the community in numerous ways. First and foremost, the project generates 7,800 jobs during construction and 272 operational jobs. Additionally, the line provides the first alternative transportation mode to relieve congestion on the 405 Freeway and other north-south arteries in the western portion of Los Angeles County. It also provides a critical connection to LAX, assists with land use planning and local economic development in the corridor, and provides an efficient, clean mode of transportation.

## Metro Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

Supervisor Ridley-Thomas authored an amendment to the LRTP that was unanimously approved, giving the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor and Gold Line Foothill Extension "first priority" to new federal funding (non-new starts) the agency will pursue. The corridor project, championed by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, will now be eligible for \$485 million in potential new funding in addition to \$1.76 billion previously budgeted for the line to address community concerns regarding public safety and economic impacts. The amendment lead to a unanimously vote of the LRTP.

## Metro Local Hire Program

In March, Metro unanimously approved Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas' proposal to establish a local hiring program for large construction projects. The purpose of the Local Hire Program is to promote employment and job training opportunities in Los Angeles County to residents living near Metro construction projects.

## Transportation Projects in the 2<sup>nd</sup> District Receive \$52 million from Metro in Annual Call for Project

Ridley-Thomas worked with Metro to award a total of \$52 million to 21 projects in the Second Supervisorial District in its annual call for projects; including \$4.4 million for projects that will serve the area around the

new Martin Luther King, Jr. Hospital. A complete list of projects may be found at [http://www.metro.net/board/Items/2009/09\\_September/20090916P&PItem9.pdf](http://www.metro.net/board/Items/2009/09_September/20090916P&PItem9.pdf)

## Congestion Pricing/FastLanes

Ridley-Thomas has been building on the enabling legislation he introduced while in the State Senate, SB 1422, which allowed Metro to move forward with its plan to bring FastLanes to Los Angeles. Ridley-Thomas has been working closely with Metro staff and key stakeholders to ensure that FastLanes deliver three regional benefits:

1. traffic congestion relief
2. economic development and jobs
3. air quality improvement.

The U.S. Department of Transportation awarded a \$210 million grant for the Demonstration Project. The one-year project will convert High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes on I-10 (Alameda St to I-605) and I-110 (Adams Blvd to Artesia Transit Center) to High-Occupancy FastLanes.

*For more information on the Supervisor's Mobility agenda and accomplishments, please visit <http://ridley-thomas.lacounty.gov/crenshaw>*

## RIDLEY-THOMAS CHAMPIONS KEY PUBLIC SAFETY INITIATIVES

Among the achievements counted on the Supervisor's progress report include several public safety initiatives geared toward restoring safety and peace of mind to residents of Second District communities.

One key program is the now Countywide "Gifts for Guns" program, which was started in 2005 by the Los Angeles

County Sheriff's Department, and provides citizens with a \$100-\$200 gift card incentive to surrender firearms.

This program received much-needed support when Supervisor Ridley-Thomas took office in December 2008. The program, which previously operated only out of the Compton station, was expanded to the Lennox Station in December, and by the

spring of 2009, the program was expanded to include all Sheriff's Stations throughout the County.

Since the program's inception, nearly 7,000 firearms have been surrendered, more than half of which were surrendered in the time since Supervisor Ridley-Thomas took office.

## Office Locations

### **Exposition Park**

700 Exposition Park Drive  
Administrative Offices East  
Los Angeles, CA 90037  
213-743-7200 (phone)  
213-743-5665 (fax)



### **Florence-Firestone**

Sheriff's YAL  
7901 S. Compton Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90001  
323-586-6523 (phone)  
323-277-9824 (fax)



### **Inglewood Courthouse**

One Regent Street  
Room 620  
Inglewood, CA 90301  
310-419-5161 (phone)  
310-674-6134 (fax)



### **Willowbrook Senior Center**

12915 S. Jarvis Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90061  
310-217-7339 (phone)  
310-808-1184 (fax)



### **Downtown Office**

Kenneth Hahn Hall of  
Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Room 866  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
213-974-2222 (phone)  
213-680-3283 (fax)



## **SUPERVISOR CALLS FOR DCFS ACCOUNTABILITY**

Bringing light to the oversight of quality care to children under the supervision of the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Supervisor Ridley-Thomas called for investigations into the due process followed by DCFS workers when investigating child abuse claims in foster homes.

Over the course of 2009, several young children in DCFS care were found slain, many of whom were Second District residents. In April, the Supervisor drafted a motion calling for a detailed report from DCFS investigating several items including, but not limited to: the training of DCFS workers; the quality and availability of services to families in which a child has been abused or neglected; and an assessment of DCFS' and other involved County departments' awareness of and adherence to protocols in response to crisis situations involving child endangerment cases.

Later, in July 2009, the Supervisor authored a motion directing the County Chief Executive Officer to work with various departments to understand the deficiencies in care to children in families served by DCFS, as well as to gather

demographic information on child fatalities in the past three years to identify trends and solve the root issues.

Maintaining his dedication to rectifying the problems that have left an unacceptable number of young children dead, the Supervisor authored a motion on November 24 to permit the Department of Auditor-Controller access to DCFS case files, to test the accuracy of the demographic and case management information that DCFS has collected and analyzed.

The persistence with which the Supervisor continues to pursue answers in the DCFS investigation is evidence of his dedication to ensuring that Second District constituents receive exemplary services from the County agencies set in place to assist residents.

*For more information on Supervisor Ridley-Thomas' Board motions, both related to DCFS and to other policy areas, please visit <http://ridley-thomas.lacounty.gov/Pages/motions.htm>*

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